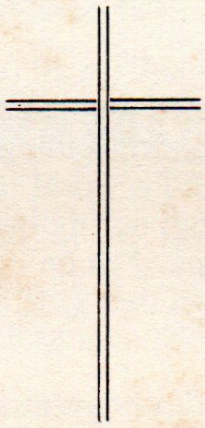
ROYAL MEMORIAL CHAPEL, SANDHURST



The

COMMISSIONING SERVICE

for

OFFICER CADETS OF THE
SENIOR DIVISION

of

INTAKE THIRTY FIVE

THE ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY
SANDHURST

29th JULY, 1965

Order of Service

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE THANKSGIVING

NOW thank we all our God,
With heart, and hands, and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom his world rejoices;
Who from our mother's arms
Hath bless'd us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours to-day.

O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessèd peace to cheer us;
And keep us in his grace,
And guide us when perplex'd,
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and him who reigns
With them in highest Heaven.
The One Eternal God,
Whom earth and heaven adore,
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

BRETHREN, we are gathered together in the presence of Almighty God to offer to Him our praise and thanksgiving; I bid you to thank God for all the good things you have received during your years at this Academy and for the privilege and joy of worshipping in this Chapel; I bid you to ask God for His continued help and for fresh strength as you embark upon another stage of your career; Finally, I bid you to rededicate yourselves to the Service of God, Queen and Country, and to pray that God will use you in His Service for the building of a new order of righteousness and peace throughout the world.

Let us pray

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING AND THE FOLLOWING PRAYERS TO BE SAID BY ALL

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies. We thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving kindness to us, and to all men; We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; But above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; For the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

REMEMBER, O Lord, what thou hast wrought in us and not what we deserve; and as thou hast called us to thy service, make us worthy of our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TEACH us, good Lord, to serve thee as thou deservest, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to ask for any reward, save the knowledge that we do thy will. Amen.

A Brief Silence

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Chaplain shall rise and pronounce this Benediction

MAY the strength of God uphold you, and the power of God preserve you.

May the wisdom of God instruct you, and the way of God direct you.

May the hand of God protect you, and the shield of God defend you.

May Christ be with you, Christ before you, Christ in you, Christ over you.

May thy salvation, Lord, be always ours this day and for evermore. Amen.

THE WEST ENTRANCE

AN INTERIOR VIEW FROM THE WEST GALLERY

THE LESSON

(*Ephesians* 6 *vv.* 10–20)

Read by the Commandant, The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst

I VOW to thee, my country, all earthly things above,
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love;
The love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country I've heard of long ago,
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.

ADDRESS

Then shall follow

THE SOLEMN ACT OF DEDICATION

All kneeling
the Officer Cadets to be Commissioned shall say

O ALMIGHTY God, Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, we dedicate to thee this day the years that lie before us. Grant that we may serve our fellow men with zeal and sincerity; that we may uphold that which is right and true, and strengthened by thy power we may always defend the freedom of our land and the rights of our people. Give us a strong faith, a keen hope and an earnest desire always to follow in the steps of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and to serve thee faithfully all the days of our lives. Amen.

He who would valiant be
'Gainst all disaster,
Let him in constancy,
Follow the Master.
There's no discouragement
Shall make him once relent
His first avowed intent
To be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round
With dismal stories
Do but themselves confound—
His strength the more is.
No foes shall stay his might,
Though he with giants fight;
He will make good his right
To be a pilgrim.

Since, Lord, thou dost defend
Us with Thy Spirit,
We know we at the end
Shall life inherit.
Then fancies flee away:
I'll fear not what men say,
I'll labour night and day
To be a pilgrim.

BLESSING

GO forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all men; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. Amen.

Please take this Order of Service away with you